GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1659
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2005
INDO- BANGLA JOINT RIVERS COMMISSION
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 36th meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission was held recently;

(b) if so, the specific issues discussed therein particularly those with regard to sharing of waters of Ichhamati in West Bengal and the seven Bangladesh rivers and to prevent erosion and other damages caused by these rivers; and

(c) the decisions arrived at and the steps being taken by the Government to implement the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES, PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV)

(a) to (c) 36th meeting of Indo Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held from 19th to 21st September, 2005. There was no agenda pertaining to sharing of waters of Ichamati in West Bengal. However, the issues relating to dredging of common border stretch river Ichamati and sharing of waters of river Teesta and other common rivers were discussed among other items.

With reference to bank protection works/minor lift irrigation schemes/drinking water supply schemes on common border rivers and dredging of common border stretch of river Ichamati, it was decided that Ministers of Water Resources of India and Bangladesh will jointly inspect these sites to assess the situation on the ground in order to give relevant decision on the future course of action to be undertaken by the two countries on their specific concerns. Accordingly, the details of sites have been exchanged between both the Governments.